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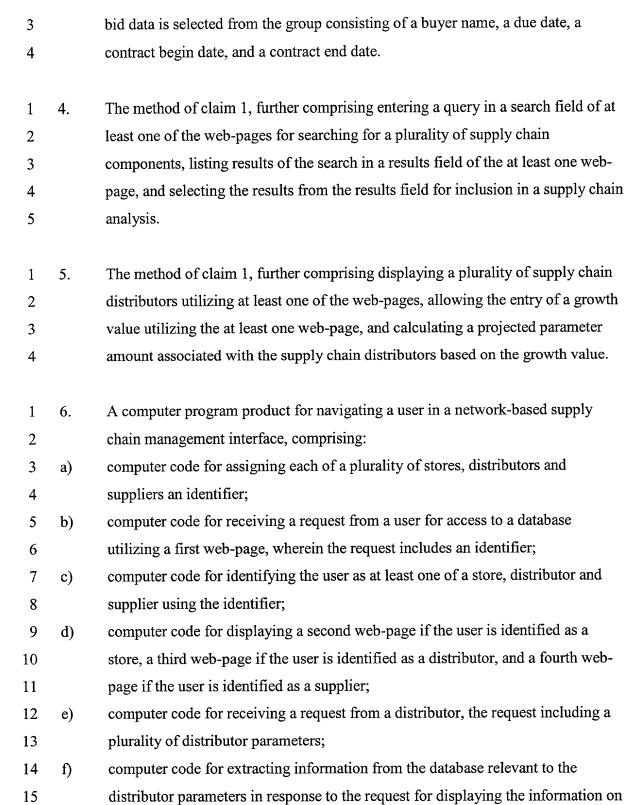
CLAIMS

A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management

What is claimed is:

2		interface, comprising:
3	a)	assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
4	b)	receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page,
5		wherein the request includes an identifier;
6	c)	identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the
7		identifier;
8	d)	displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page
9		if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is
10		identified as a supplier;
11	e)	receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of
12		distributor parameters;
13	f)	extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in
14		response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
15	g)	receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier
16		parameters; and
17	h)	extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in
18		response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.
1	2.	The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a contract utilizing at least
2		one of the web-pages, associating the contract with an item to be distributed
3		utilizing the at least one web-page, and preventing the item from being associated
4		with more than one contract.
1	3.	The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving bid data utilizing at least one
2	~•	of the web-pages, and generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the
		F-6, and 5-heraming a ord proposal asing the ord data, wherein the

the third web-page;



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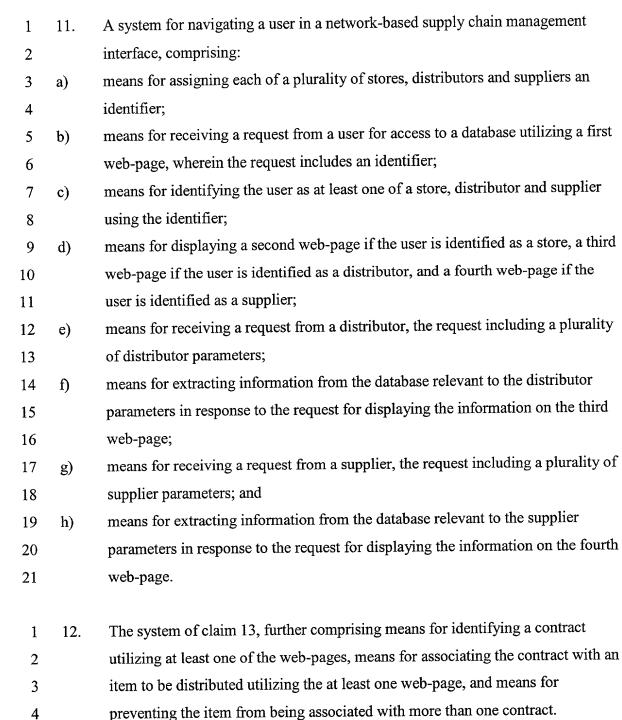
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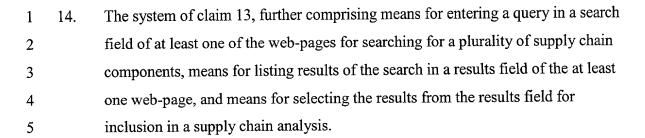
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- computer code for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and
 computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.
 - The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.
 - 8. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.
 - 9. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.
 - 1 10. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.



- The system of claim 13, further comprising means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer
- 4 name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.



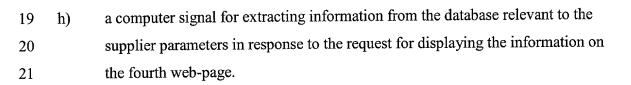
- 1 15. The system of claim 13, further comprising means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.
- 1 16. A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:
- a) a computer signal for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and
 suppliers an identifier;
- 5 b) a computer signal for receiving a request from a user for access to a database 6 utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- a computer signal for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- a computer signal for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth webpage if the user is identified as a supplier;
- 12 e) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- 14 f) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the
 15 distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on
 16 the third web-page;
- a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and

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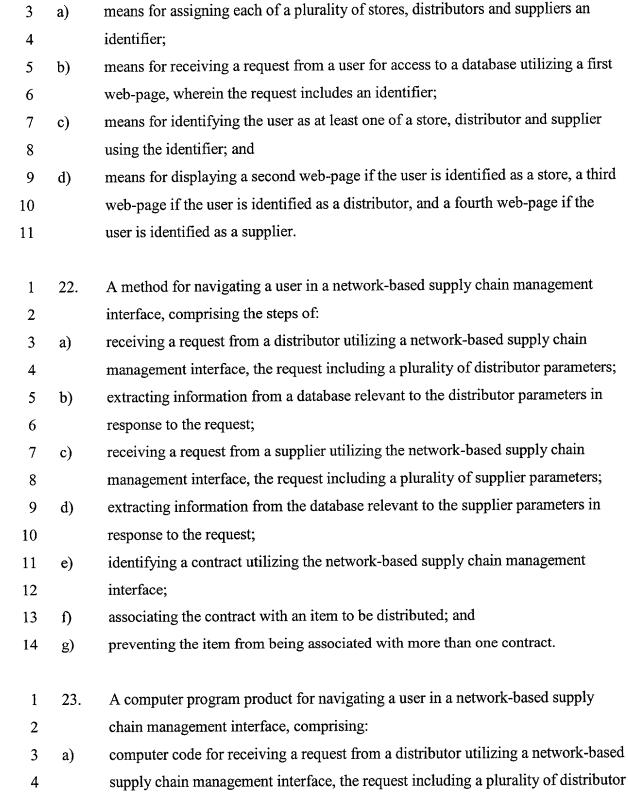
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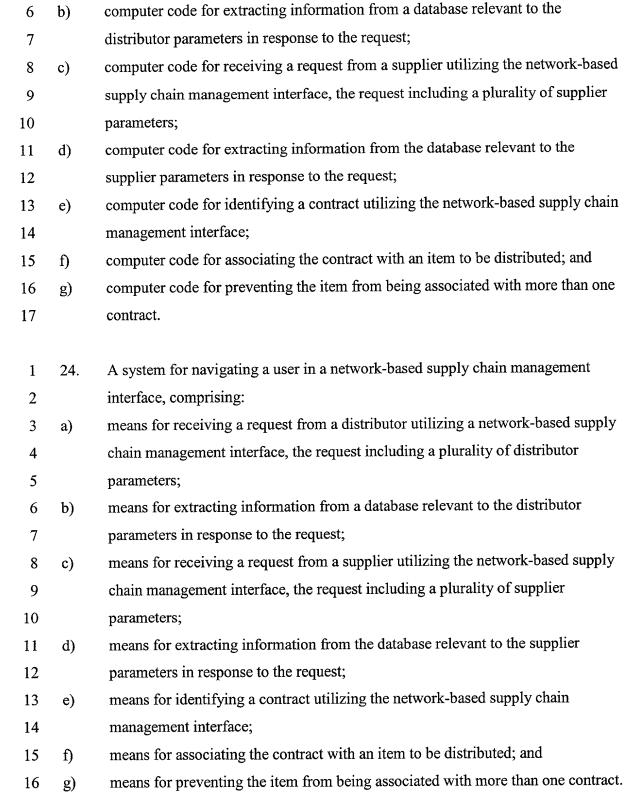
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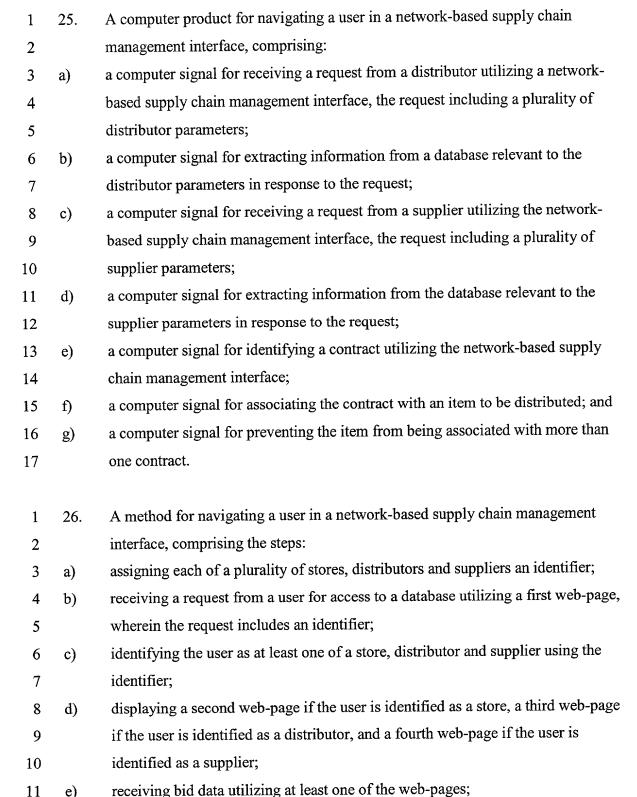
- 1 17. The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for
 2 identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for
 3 associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one
 4 web-page, and a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated
 5 with more than one contract.
- The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and a computer signal for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.
 - 19. The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, a computer signal for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.
- The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.
- 1 21. A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

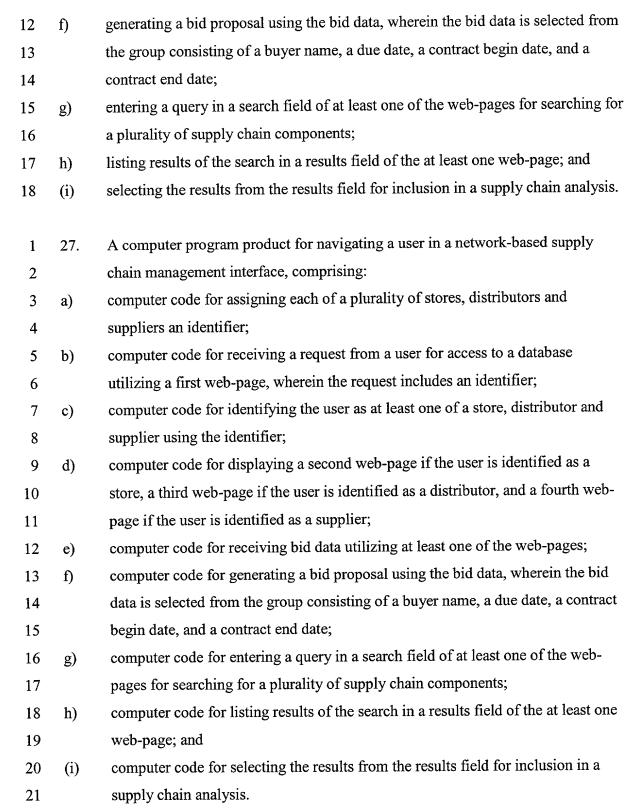
parameters;





e)

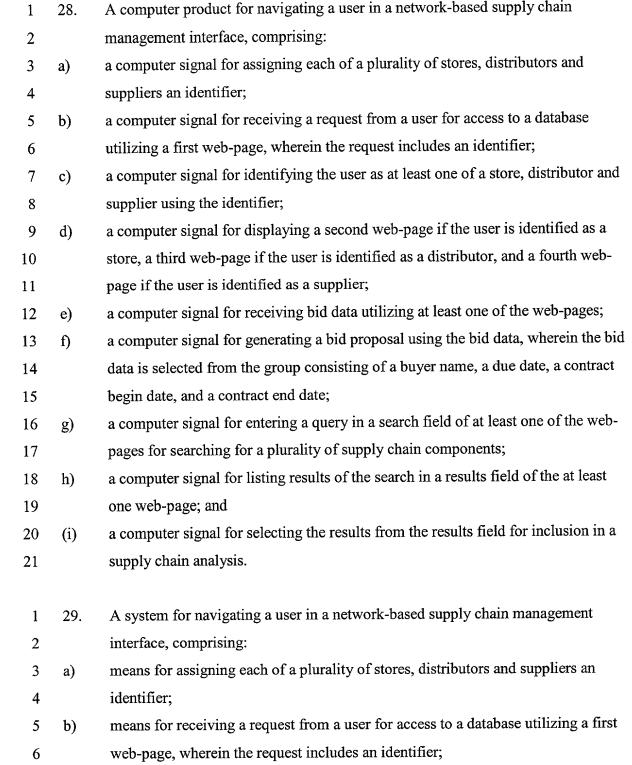




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c)

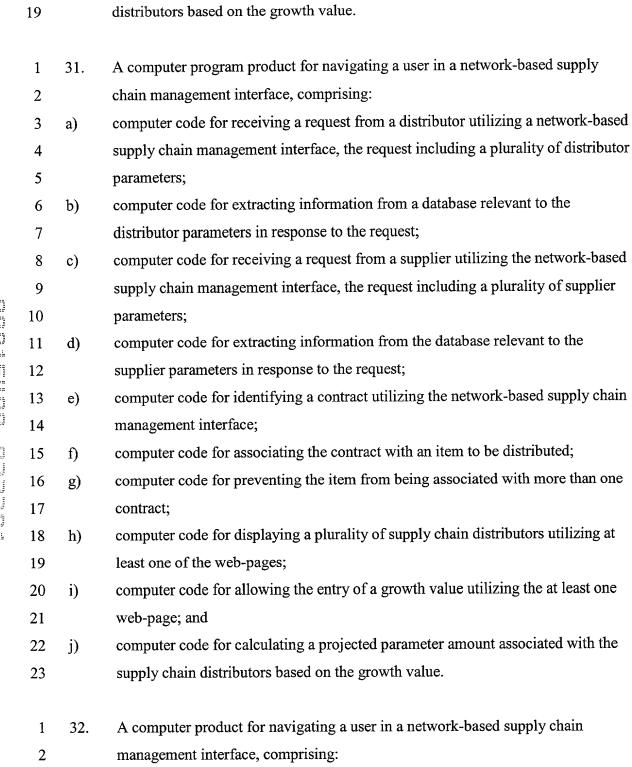
using the identifier;



means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier

means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third 9 d) web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the 10 user is identified as a supplier; 11 means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages; 12 e) means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is 13 f) selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin 14 date, and a contract end date; 15 means for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for 16 g) 17 searching for a plurality of supply chain components; means for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-18 h) 19 page; and means for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply 20 (i) 21 chain analysis. A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management 30. 1 2 interface, comprising the steps of: receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain 3 a) management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters; 4 extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in 5 b) 6 response to the request; receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain 7 c) management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; 8 extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in 9 d) 10 response to the request; identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management 11 e) 12 interface; associating the contract with an item to be distributed; 13 f) preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract; 14 g) displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-15 h) 16 pages; allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and 17 i)

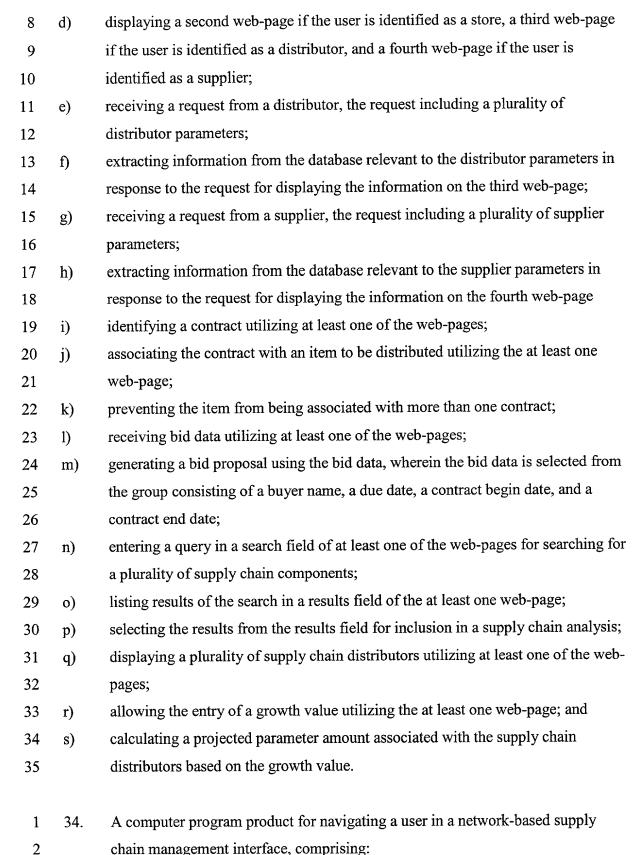
j)

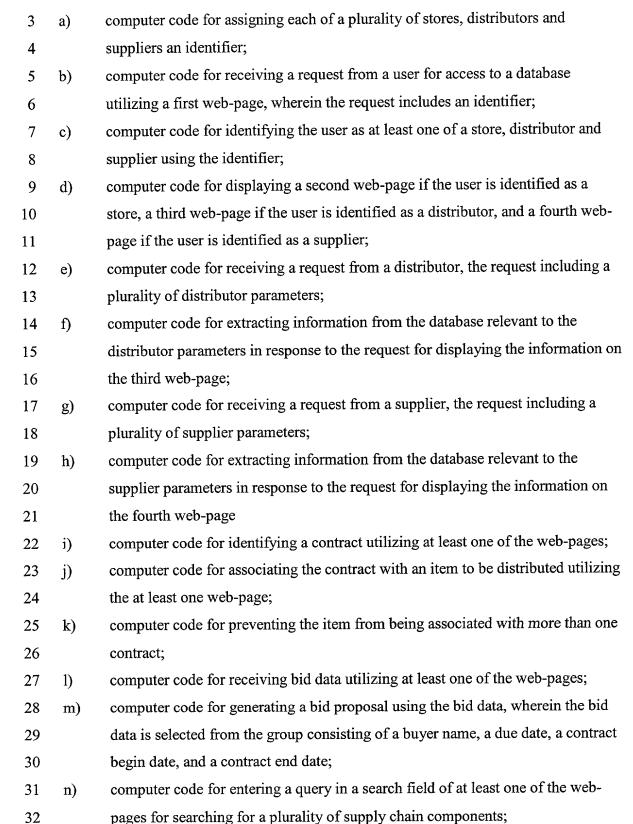


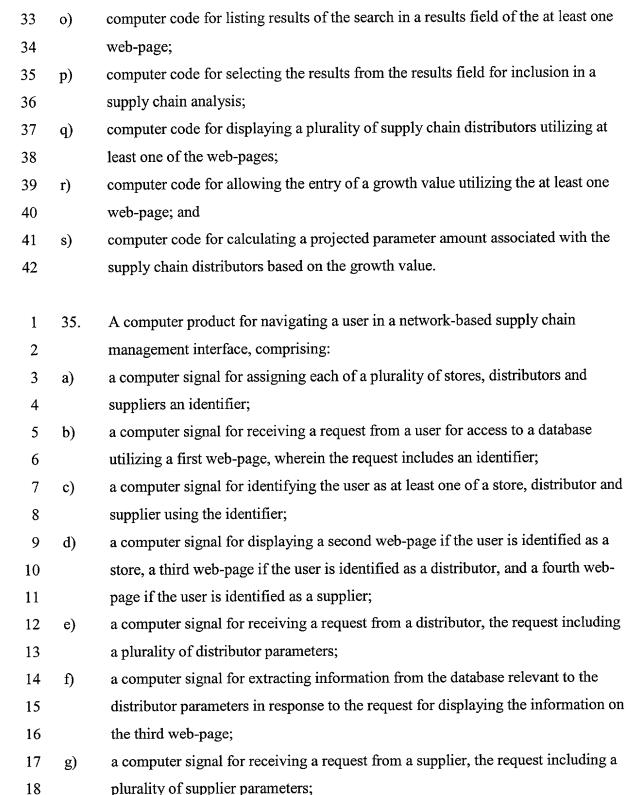
calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain

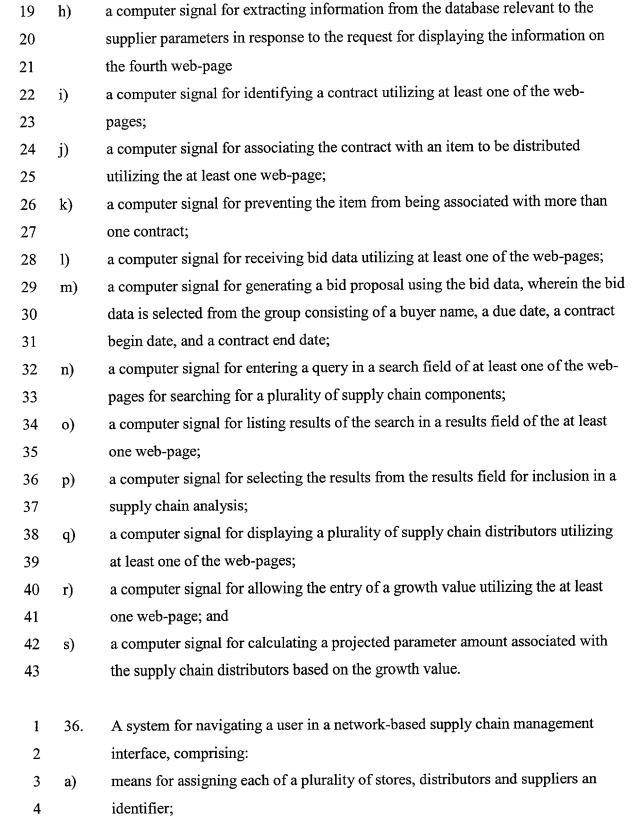
identifier;

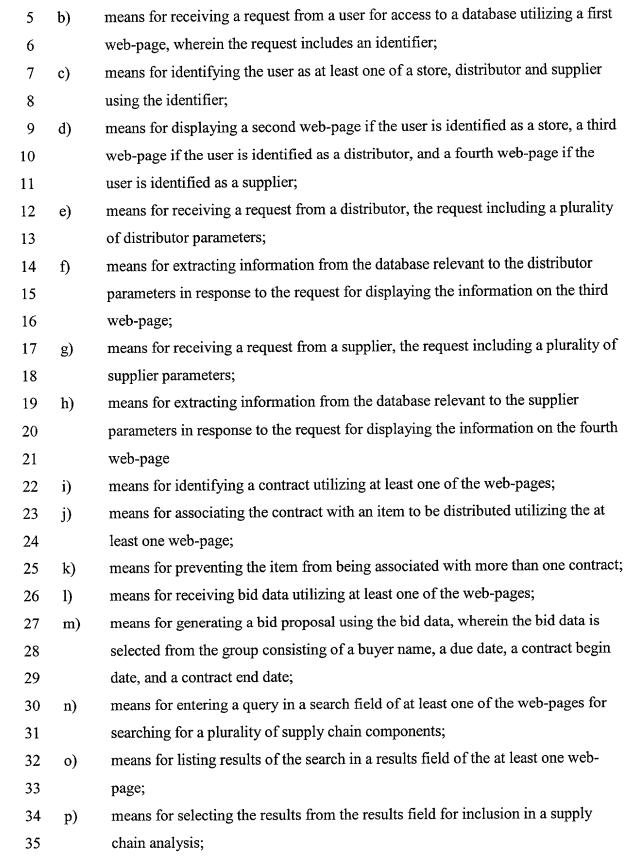
3	a)	a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-
4		based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of
5		distributor parameters;
6	b)	a computer signal for extracting information from a database relevant to the
7		distributor parameters in response to the request;
8	c)	a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-
9		based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of
10		supplier parameters;
11	d)	a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the
12		supplier parameters in response to the request;
13	e)	a computer signal for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply
14		chain management interface;
15	f)	a computer signal for associating the contract with an item to be distributed;
16	g)	a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated with more than
17		one contract;
18	h)	a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing
19		at least one of the web-pages;
20	i)	a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least
21		one web-page; and
22	j)	a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with
23		the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.
1	33.	A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management
2		interface, comprising the steps of:
3	a)	assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
4	b)	receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page,
5		wherein the request includes an identifier;
6	c)	identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the











36	q)	means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one
37		of the web-pages;
38	r)	means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page;
39		and
40	s)	means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply
41		chain distributors based on the growth value.